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Dadaji: A Bhakti U.G.*?

The Zoo Fence recently was the fortunate recipient of a very powerful book, "The Fragrance of the Heart – Encounters with Dadaji" by Peter Myer-Dohm. It is a biographical memoir of the now deceased Teacher known by his "devotees" as Dadaii. or "elder brother".

	(I use the term devotee cautiously, as I suspect Dadaji himself
lf I am a Guru, you are also a Guru.	would wince at its implications.)
Dadaji	In my long journey of "looking for answers" to life's mysteries, I
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have come across about seven books out of the hundreds, perhaps thousands. I have read that contain within them not

only words, but a spirit, or power, or living-ness that other books do not seem to contain. This book is one of those.

Without fail, such "living" books that are <u>Bhakti</u> in nature, or devotional and surrendered produce in me, at least, an uncontrollable sleepiness, or zombie-like state of mind, which no amount of tea or coffee, or mind control, can dissipate. It is the same state of consciousness, bordering on unconsciousness, that occurs whenever there is a leap in my own consciousness, a revelation of truth, which causes the mind, when it rushes in to recapture the event, to "fall asleep", and to refuse to maintain its focus. This state, of course, is interpreted by my mind to be "asleep" or "unconscious", which, of course, to a conscious mind, WOULD appear to be just that.

While reading this particular book, the altered state was so intense that I feared losing consciousness altogether ' an interesting reaction to the

mind's stillness, no doubt, by a mind pre-occupied with maintaining control. This state -- and it occurs each time I pick You can do up the book ' signifies to me the power and depth of the spirit that resides within it. It is also this state that signifies to me that the book works at a level different from the mind. Perhaps a better way to describe what I mean might be to say that

nothing. Dadaji

immersing oneself in this book immerses oneself in Dadaji's consciousness. This is what I mean by "a living book", and it applies to other books of like power as well.

To me, this Teacher speaks the words of U.G. and Nisargadatta and Ramana Maharshi, to name just a few, but within a devotional or Bhakta frame of reference. However, lest I suggest differences by this statement, I note that they all say essentially the same thing, and their similarities outweigh their surface differences.

What I particularly resonate with in this man's teaching is his apparently simple combination of devotion and thus certainty of a God (which he calls simply "He"), and an understanding and expression as a living example of the God within, and the within-ness of man in God and thus, of a non-dual universe. He has managed, to my mind at least, to combine jnana with bhakti, or the heart with the mind, without conflict and without imbalance.

At the same time, despite the bhakti

Wisdom is knowing you are only an actor. Ignorance is when you think you are not. *Dadaji* approach, he is adamant that no human being can be a guru, and that the guru is within. He is also impatient and intolerant of all power structures which use authority to control mankind, including those of a religious nature, and in particular, of the bhakti path that is too often used in this manner. He seems to apply this across the board, including ALL religions that use devotion as a method of control. His ability to

discriminate objectively and lovingly indicates to me at least the level of his <u>Realization</u>. Coincidentally, he has managed to divinize all human activity, all human longing and desire, and he uniquely encourages all his listeners to live their human life fully, without rejecting any of it.

Suffice it to say that this gentleman still lives, obviously. But lest this be misunderstood, buying the book and reading it will not guarantee that he will walk in your front door. However, it may invite God into your heart. Much depends upon our motivations, and much depends upon God.

* Uppaluri Gopala Krishnamurti (9 July 1918 – 22 March 2007), known as **U. G.** Krishnamurti, was an Indian thinker who questioned enlightenment. Although necessary for day to day functioning of the individual, in terms of the Ultimate Reality or Truth, he rejected the very basis of "thought" and in doing so negated all systems of thought and knowledge in reference to It. – Tell them that there is *nothing* to understand. Although many considered him an "enlightened" person, Krishnamurti often referred to his state of being as the "natural state." He claimed that the demand for enlightenment was the only thing standing in the way of enlightenment itself, if enlightenment existed at all. He was unrelated to his contemporary Jiddu Krishnamurti, although the two men had a number of meetings.

Note: For information about purchasing the book "The Fragrance of The Heart – Encounters with Dadaji", please inquire at <u>http://www.dadaji.info</u> where it can be downloaded as a free PDF file, or for a hard copy of the book write the author. Prof Dr Peter Meyer-Dohm, Zeppelinstr. 24, D-30175 Hannover, GERMANY Phone xx49-(0)511-899 750 20 Mobile 0171-466 1963 Email: <u>peter@meyer-dohm.de</u>